

IN MEMORY OF CLIVE PREECE (1944 – 2011)

It is with great sadness that we have to advise you of the sudden and unexpected death of Clive Preece, who died on 12th February 2011.

As Manchester Branch members, you will already know something about Clive, even though you probably never met him, as he was the creative inspiration behind the production of “In Touch”, the Manchester Branch newsletter, for many years

Clive's CV

Clive moved to Manchester in 1974 to live with his partner, Phil Dowland, who himself has had longstanding involvement with CIPD Manchester Branch, currently as the Branch Bookkeeper and before that as Branch Treasurer. Clive also had a career change. Initially he worked as a Medical Photographer at North Manchester General Hospital. He was popular and through a series of promotions, he became Director of Medical Illustration. He held this post until 1998, when he took early retirement.

Between 2004 and 2010 Clive was a member of the Branch Communications Group, which collectively had responsibility for the production of the Branch Newsletter. Clive's creativity and attention to detail and the fact that he was easy to work with, made him a key member of the group. Clive also had a keen sense of humour and was convivial company too.

After 35 years together Clive and Phil formed Civil Partnership in February 2006. One of the first couples to do so in Trafford.

After his retirement, Clive kept himself busy with his garden and cooking – he loved to give dinner parties. When Phil retired they acquired a third member of the family - Edward the chocolate Labrador, which occupied much of their time. However, Clive always found time for a visit to their local for the “odd pint or two”.

Clive and Phil loved travelling and managed to visit many different places throughout the World – from Bali to Barbados.

Contributions from the Committee.....

We lived next to Phil and Clive for 20 years, when we arrived they both welcomed us to the neighbourhood with a lovely meal at their house, Clive was an excellent cook and we thoroughly enjoyed their dinner parties. I have actually stolen his recipe for savoury vegetable bake and still use it to this day. When our children were young and noisy both Phil and Clive were extremely patient with them and were always kind and considerate to our family. We would often have a chat over the fence and put the world to rights. He will be sorely missed as a friend and neighbour. Olive and Errol Strachan

A smile comes across my face when I think of Clive. His dry wit and down to earth speaking never failed to amuse. No matter how controversial his views, nor how they might be at variance with one's own, he had a knack of displaying his warm character and truly authentic personality. He was a talented photographer, cook, debater and raconteur and was a joy to have around. Sue Adams

I first met Clive about 5 years ago, in his supporting role as desktop publisher for the branch newsletter. With his warm and friendly personality, he quickly became a friend. I will miss his witty responses, his superb cooking and great company. It was a pleasure to have known him and shared time and communications with him. Pauline Parrett

Conclusions

Clive and Phil were together for 41 years, so Phil is clearly feeling Clive's loss acutely. For those of us on the committee who knew him professionally or personally, he will be sorely missed.

With thanks everyone who has contributed to this article.

CIPD Manchester Branch Committee